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ABSTRACT

This publication is designed for use as part of a curriculum series developed by the Regional Marine Science Project. It serves as a second grade supplementary reading text about the marine environment. Reading material characterizes the ocean, fresh water and salt water, and the seashore. An ecological approach to nature is emphasized, by describing elements found at seashores waves, animals, plants, grasses, and algae. Numerous drawings show the plants and animals and their interrelationships where appropriate. In addition, the line drawings allow students to color in all the pictures in the booklet. This work was prepared under an ESEA Title III contract. (BL)

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OUR OCEAN

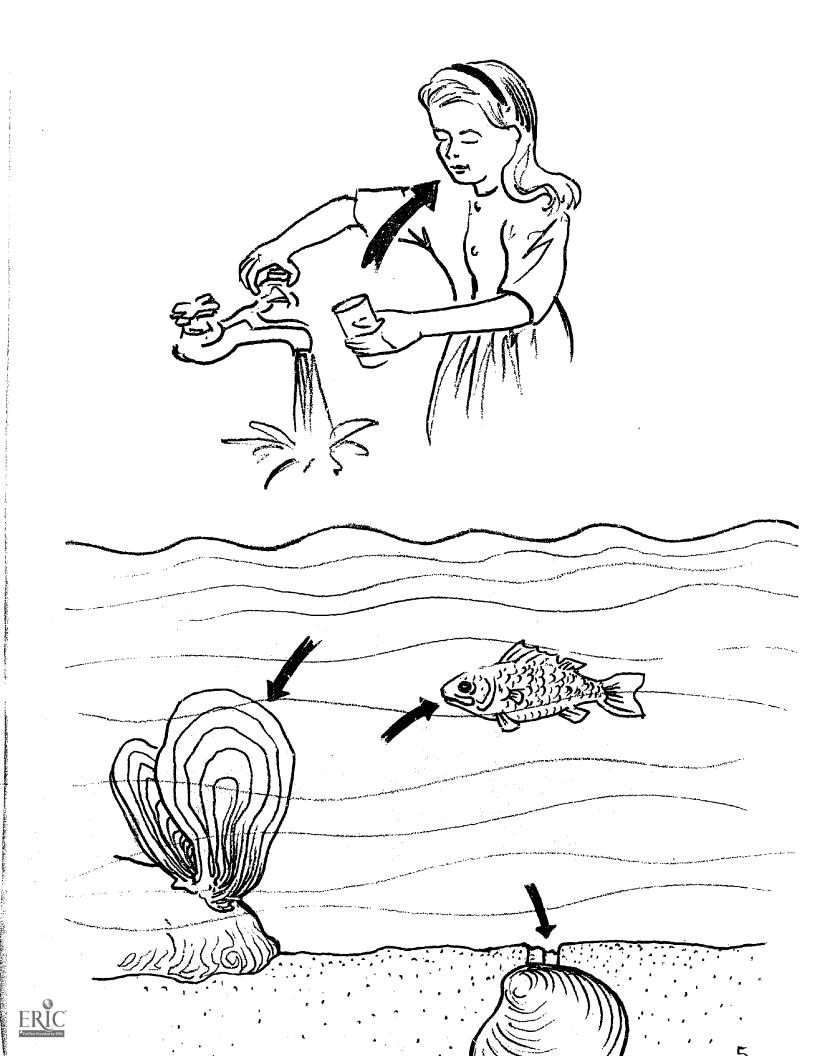
We are lucky.
We live near the ocean.
We have an ocean at our front door.
It is a friend to us in many ways.

An ocean has lots and lots of water. An ocean is much bigger than a lake. When we look at the ocean, we can not see the other side of it.

Oceans cover much of our earth. We have more ocean than land. There are five big oceans. Our ocean is the Atlantic Ocean.

Why is the ocean our friend?
What does the ocean do?
The ocean connects friends from many lands.
The ocean is a home for plants and animals.
Much of the food we eat comes from the ocean.





FRESH WATER AND SALT WATER

The water we drink is fresh water. Fresh water tastes good to drink.

A pond is fresh water.
Plants and animals live in a pond.
They like the fresh water.
They need the fresh water for a home.

The water in the ocean is salt water. Do you know what salt is? If we put salt in water it tastes salty. It is salt water. We do not like the taste of salt water.

Ocean water has lots of salt in it, Plants and animals also live in the ocean. They like the salt water. They need the salt water for a home. They would not like to live in fresh water.



OUR SEASHORE

The weather is warm in the summer. We swim in the ocean water in the summer. We splash in the water. We jump the small waves.

It is fun to play in the sand. The beach has lots of sand. We dig holes in the sand. The beach is our friend.

The beach is called the seashore.
The ocean meets the land at the seashore.
The water at the seashore is salt water.

Water wets the sand at the seashore. High up from the water the sand is dry. This sand is warm and soft.

Plants and animals live at the seashore. They like the sand and the salt water. We can look for plants and animals.









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WAVES AT THE SEASHORE

Ocean water has waves.
The wind can make waves in the water.
Waves lift the water high.
Some waves are very big.

Waves carry water to the seashore. Waves at the seashore may be little. We like to jump the little waves.

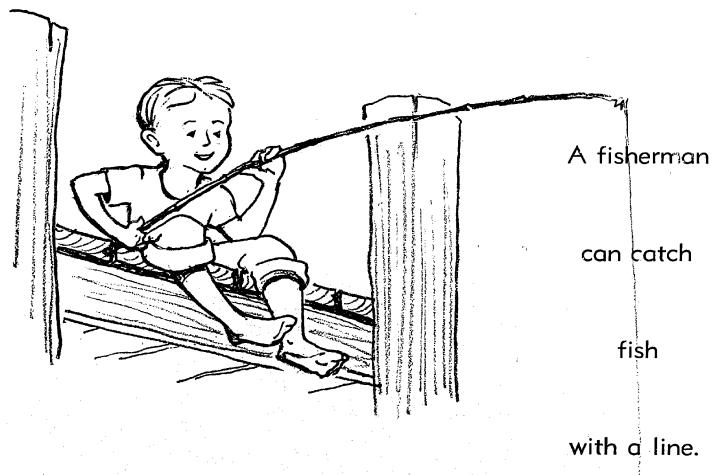
Some seashores have big waves. Big waves can knock us down. Big waves are strong. Strong waves can carry things. Strong waves can carry a big log. Waves can carry sand.

Waves carry animals that live in the water. Some animals can swim in the water. Some animals can not swim. The waves carry them from place to place.



ANIMALS AT THE SEASHORE

What animals live in the ocean?
A fish lives in the ocean.
We can catch fish on a line.
We can catch lots of fish with a net.

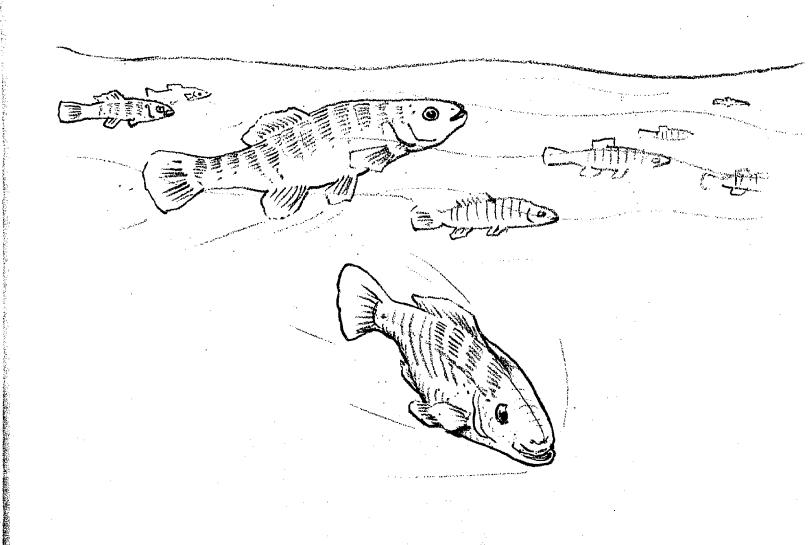


Fishermen can catch many fish with a net.





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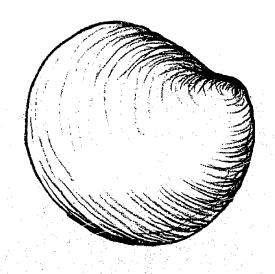


A FISH has a mouth and eyes just like we do. Fish have fins and a tail to help them swim in the water. A fish always lives in the water. It could not live on the sand at the seashore.

Many animals live in the ocean. We can eat many of them. We can catch some with a net.

Some animals live in the sand. We can dig in the sand. We can find these animals. We can use a shovel to help us dig.

Clams live in the sand. They dig under the sand. Clams hide in the sand.



A **CLAM** has a round shell. The clam lives inside the shell. The shell is closed tightly so you can not open it. Clams dig under the sand and hide.

An oyster lives on top of the sand. Many oysters live together. Scallops live on top of the sand, too. We can find them at the seashore.

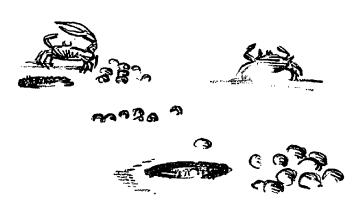
An OYSTER has two shells like a clam. The shell of an oyster is very sharp. Be careful! You might cut your finder on it. Oysters grow in bunches. They can st swim. Oysters stay in one place on the send.



A **SCALLOP** has two shells. The shell of a scallop feels like it has many ridges on it. Run your finger over the scallop shell. A scallop has many little blue eyes. The eyes peek out when the scallop opens its shell. The scallop can move by opening and closing its shell very fast.

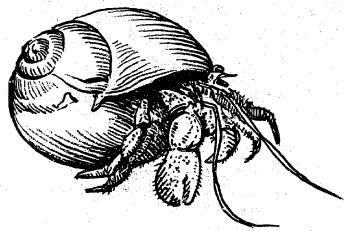
The fiddler crab lives on the sand. It digs holes in the sand. The crab hides in its hole.





The **FIDDLER CRAB** has a claw that looks like a fiddle. The lady fiddler crab has two small claws. The man fiddler crab has one small claw and one large claw. Hundreds of fiddler crabs live on our seashore.

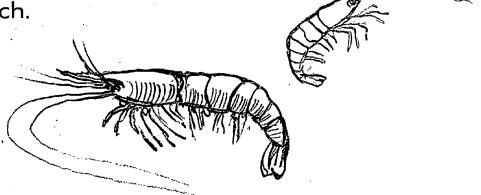
Some crabs live in shells. They borrow the shells. The crabs find an empty shell. They make the shell their home.



The **HERMIT CRAB** carries its home on its back. Its home is the empty shell of another animal. The hermit crab moves over the sand carrying the shell wherever it goes. It can not swim in the water because the shell is too heavy.

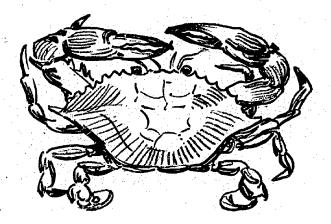
Shrimp live in the ocean.
We can catch shrimp with a net.
Shrimp can swim in the water.

They can swim very fast. Shrimp are hard to catch.



A SHRIMP looks like this. It has many tiny legs that are like paddles. These legs help the shrimp to move fast.

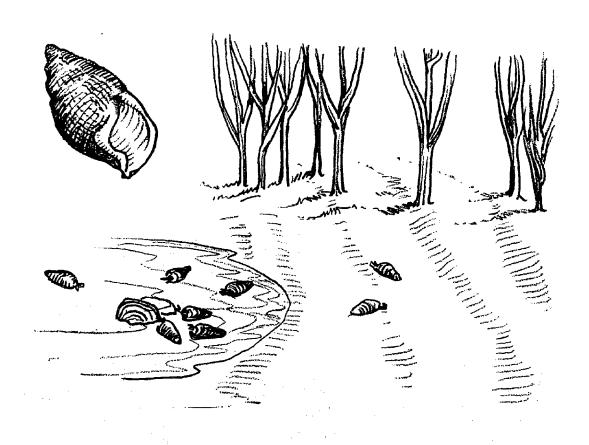
A crab can swim, too.
There are many crabs in the ocean.
Some crabs live on the seashore.
These crabs run over the sand.



The **BLUE CRAB** is very large. It has big claws that can pinch. The blue crab lives in the water. It can swim.

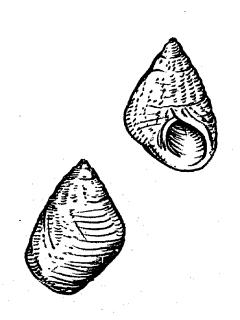


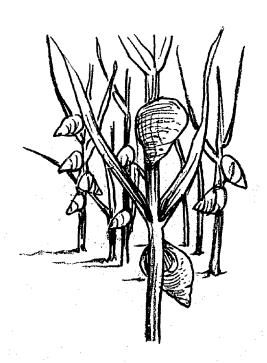
Snails rive at the seashore.
The mud snail lives on the mud.
It moves very slowly
The snail is black like the mud.



The MUD SNAIL can live on the wet sand and in the water, too. At high tide the snail is covered by water. We can find hundreds of these snails at the seashore.

One snail does not like the water. It climbs up tall grass. It does not get wet when it climbs. This snail is called the periwinkle snail.

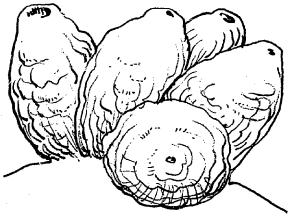




The **PERIWINKLE SNAIL** climbs up stalks of grass at the seashore when the tide is high. When the tide is low, the periwinkle climbs back down. We can find the snails clinging on the tall grass.

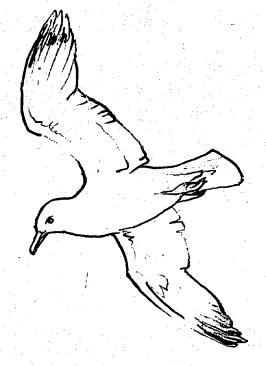


Some animals have lots of water inside. A sea squirt has lots of water inside. We can squeeze the water out. So we call it a sea squirt.



The SEA SQUIRT is a funny animal. We can hold it and squeeze it. Water will squirt out of its mouth.

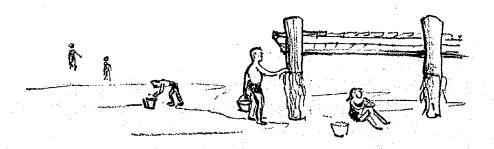
Birds live at the seashore. We call these birds sea gulls. Sea gulls eat fish and crabs. They eat food on the seashore. Sea gulls help keep the seashore clean.



The **SEA GULL** catches fish in the water. It catches clams and drops them on rocks to crack the shell.

PLANTS AT THE SEASHORE

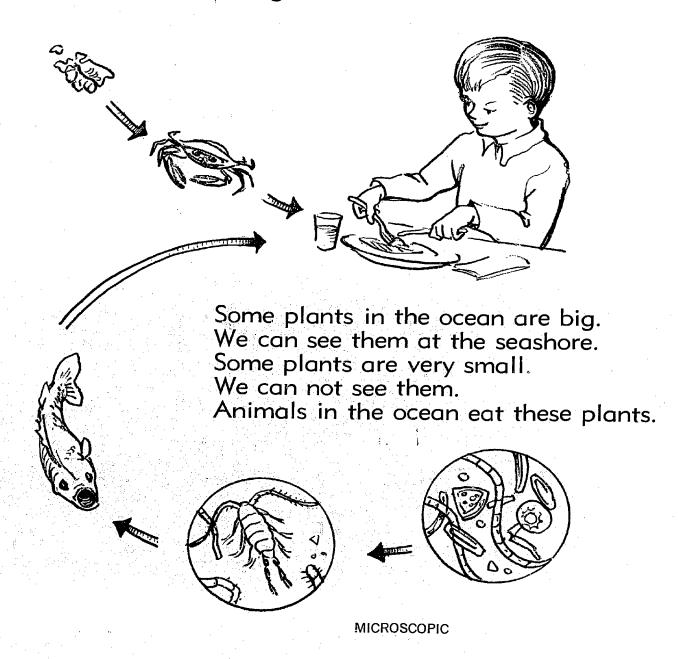
Plants live in the ocean. They live on the seashore, too. Plants in the ocean are called algae. Some people call them seaweeds.



Plants can make their food. We can not make our food. We must eat to get food. Plants need sunlight to make food. They need water, too.



We do not eat algae. Some people do eat algae. We eat fish, crabs, and shrimp. These animals eat the algae.



GRASSES AT THE SEASHORE

Some plants at the seashore are grasses. They are not algae.

Some grasses can live in the water.

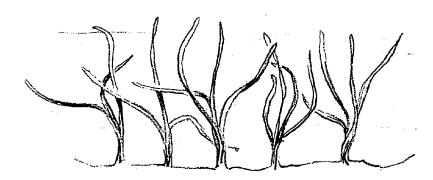
Other grasses live away from the water.



SALT MARSH CORDGRASS is tall and green. This grass grows in the water. When the tide is low the grass is not covered by water.

SALT MEADOW CORDGRASS is smaller than its cousin salt marsh cordgrass. Both live at the seashore. Salt meadow cordgrass lives higher up the beach away from the water. It can not grow in the water.

EEL GRASS grows in the water. It has roots in the sand. Eel grass is not a seaweed. It is a grass.

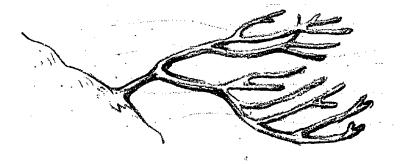




ALGAE AT THE SEASHORE

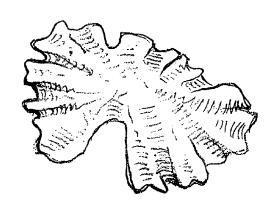
Grasses have roots.
Roots hold the grasses in soil.
Algae do not have roots.
They may hold on to shells and rocks.
Algae have a "holdfast" to help them hold on.

One seaweed looks like lettuce. It is called sea lettuce. Sea lettuce is green. It lives in the water.



SPONGE SEAWEED looks like our fingers. It is dark green. Sponge seaweed holds on to rocks and shells in the water. It has a hold-fast. It is an algae.

SEA LETTUCE looks like wilted lettuce. It is thin like paper and has ruffles. It often grows on oyster shells.





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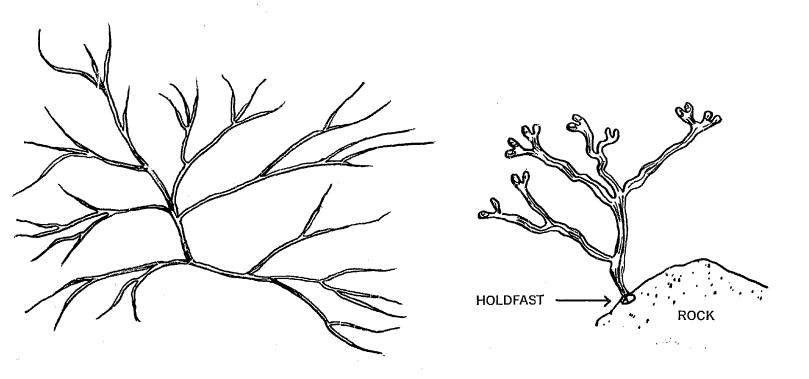
Have you ever seen red algae?

Many seaweeds in the ocean are red.

Other seaweeds are brown.

Plants and animals in the ocean have beautiful colors.

We can find green, red and brown seaweeds at Mudflat Town.



RED SEAWEED sometimes looks like many long purplish-red strings jumbled together. When we pick it up the strings of seaweed tickle our hands.

BROWN SEAWEED often feels like wet paper. We can find many different kinds of brown seaweed floating along the seashore. Sometimes the hold-fast of the algae breaks loose from a rock or shell. Then the algae is carried to the shore by the waves.

CAN YOU COLOR THE PLANTS AND ANIMALS AND ALL THE PICTURES IN THIS BOOK?

